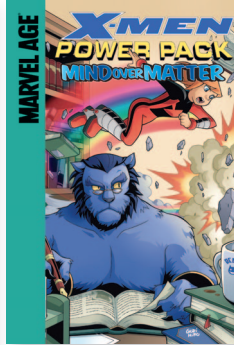


READING is a SUPERPOWER with Spotlight graphic novels & comic books!



X-MEN POWER PACK

Comic book text is short, but that doesn't mean students don't learn a lot from it! Comic books and graphic novels can be used to teach reading processes and writing techniques, such as pacing, as well as expand vocabulary. Use this PDF to help students get more out of their comic book reading.

Here are some of the projects you can give to your students to make comics educational and enjoyable!

CHARACTER RESEARCH

- Character Graph – Use the handout provided on page 2 to research information about the X-Men and Power Pack. Pages 3-4 provide teachers with the answer key.
- Trivia Questions – Use the handout provided on page 5 to have students work independently, with a partner, or in a small group to research the trivia questions. Page 6 provides teachers with the answer key.

CREATIVE WRITING PROJECTS

- Create a Mutant – Use the handout from page 7 to provide students the questions to answer in order to create the background information on their own mutant character.
- Create a Graphic Novel – Use the handout from page 8 to form small groups and ask the groups to create their own graphic novels over the course of a week.

GLOSSARY WORDS

- A teacher reference list of all 5th and 6th grade level words found in the books with definitions is provided on pages 9-12. Please use as you like.
- Vocabulary Matching – Use the handouts on page 13-16 as games for students to match words to definitions. Answer sheet is on page 17.
- Vocabulary Words – Use the sheets on pages 18-21 to have students research and become comfortable using a dictionary to find the definitions of words. An answer sheet is on page 22.

ANOTHER CLASSROOM IDEA

- Fluency Practice – Comic superheroes and villains are famous for their heroic or diabolical voices, and so comic books are a great opportunity for fluent, expressive read aloud activities. Have students read independently, aloud with a partner, or in small groups. Have the students add different voices for the characters and sound effects as they read aloud. Make a recording of their read aloud and play it back.

CHARACTER RESEARCH

X-Men Power Pack

Directions: Choose one of the characters below and use the Internet to find the information and fill out the character graph.

Special Power(s):

Wolverine
Beast
Cyclops
Nightcrawler
Lightspeed
Zero-G
Mass Master
Energizer

Appearance
(What does their
costume look like?):

CHARACTER NAME:

ALTER EGO:

How did the
mutants get
their power?

Who created the
character and when
did he first appear?

Write any other interesting information about the character:

CHARACTER RESEARCH-CHARACTER GRAPH ANSWERS

X-Men Power Pack

CHARACTER NAME: Wolverine

ALTER EGO: James Howlett

SPECIAL POWER(S): He has animal-keen senses, enhanced physical abilities and senses, special healing powers, and retractable bone claws.

APPEARANCE (WHAT DOES THEIR COSTUME LOOK LIKE?): Yellow and blue X-Men uniform. He also has six retractable bone claws

HOW DID THE MUTANT GET THEIR POWER? His latent mutant abilities were triggered after seeing his father shot and killed

WHO CREATED THE CHARACTER AND WHEN DID IT FIRST APPEAR? Len Wein/John Romita Sr./Herb Trimpe - 1974

WRITE ANY OTHER INTERESTING INFORMATION ABOUT THE CHARACTER. Answers will vary

CHARACTER NAME: Beast

ALTER EGO: Henry "Hank" P. McCoy

SPECIAL POWER(S): Superhuman agility, strength, endurance, and speed

APPEARANCE (WHAT DOES THEIR COSTUME LOOK LIKE?): Yellow and blue X-Men uniform. He also has fangs, pointed ears, and blue fur.

HOW DID THE MUTANT GET THEIR POWER? His latent mutant abilities were passed along genetically by his father, Norton McCoy who was exposed to massive amounts of radiation while working at a nuclear power plant.

WHO CREATED THE CHARACTER AND WHEN DID IT FIRST APPEAR? Stan Lee/Jack Kirby - 1963

WRITE ANY OTHER INTERESTING INFORMATION ABOUT THE CHARACTER. Answers will vary

CHARACTER NAME: Cyclops

ALTER EGO: Scott Summers

SPECIAL POWER(S): The ability to project a beam of heatless ruby-colored force from his eyes, absorbs energy from the environment to open space between dimensions

APPEARANCE (WHAT DOES THEIR COSTUME LOOK LIKE?): Yellow and blue X-Men uniform with a unique ruby quartz battle visor with a lens that runs from eye-to-eye giving him a one-eyed appearance.

HOW DID THE MUTANT GET THEIR POWER? His latent mutant abilities were triggered after hitting his head after a plane crash. The bump caused headaches, which could only be corrected by ruby quartz lenses.

WHO CREATED THE CHARACTER AND WHEN DID IT FIRST APPEAR? Stan Lee/Jack Kirby - 1963

WRITE ANY OTHER INTERESTING INFORMATION ABOUT THE CHARACTER. Answers will vary

CHARACTER NAME: Nightcrawler

ALTER EGO: Kurt Wagner

SPECIAL POWER(S): Can teleport through dimensions

APPEARANCE (WHAT DOES THEIR COSTUME LOOK LIKE?): Blue skinned with a tail, pointed ears, and fangs.

HOW DID THE MUTANT GET THEIR POWER? His mutant powers come from his mother, Mystique

WHO CREATED THE CHARACTER AND WHEN DID IT FIRST APPEAR? Len Wein/Dave Cockrum - 1975

WRITE ANY OTHER INTERESTING INFORMATION ABOUT THE CHARACTER. Answers will vary

CHARACTER RESEARCH-CHARACTER GRAPH ANSWERS

X-Men Power Pack (Cont.)

CHARACTER NAME: *Lightspeed*

ALTER EGO: *Julia "Julie" Power*

SPECIAL POWER(s): *Can fly at supersonic speeds, leaving a rainbow-like trail. While flying she also generates a protective shield around her.*

APPEARANCE (WHAT DOES THEIR COSTUME LOOK LIKE?): *Red and black outfit with a geometric design*

HOW DID THE MUTANT GET THEIR POWER? *Was given her powers by an alien named Whitemane*

WHO CREATED THE CHARACTER AND WHEN DID IT FIRST APPEAR? *Louise Simonson/June Brigman - 1984*

WRITE ANY OTHER INTERESTING INFORMATION ABOUT THE CHARACTER. *Answers will vary*

CHARACTER NAME: *Zero-G*

ALTER EGO: *Alex Power*

SPECIAL POWER(s): *Can control gravity*

APPEARANCE (WHAT DOES THEIR COSTUME LOOK LIKE?): *White and black outfit with geometric design*

HOW DID THE MUTANT GET THEIR POWER? *Was given his powers by an alien named Whitemane*

WHO CREATED THE CHARACTER AND WHEN DID IT FIRST APPEAR? *Louise Simonson/June Brigman - 1984*

WRITE ANY OTHER INTERESTING INFORMATION ABOUT THE CHARACTER. *Answers will vary.*

CHARACTER NAME: *Mass Master*

ALTER EGO: *Jack Power*

SPECIAL POWER(s): *Can alter his density and volume to appear cloudlike*

APPEARANCE (WHAT DOES THEIR COSTUME LOOK LIKE?): *Blue and black outfit with geometric design*

HOW DID THE MUTANT GET THEIR POWER? *Was given his powers by an alien named Whitemane*

WHO CREATED THE CHARACTER AND WHEN DID IT FIRST APPEAR? *Louise Simonson/June Brigman - 1984*

WRITE ANY OTHER INTERESTING INFORMATION ABOUT THE CHARACTER. *Answers will vary.*

CHARACTER NAME: *Energizer*

ALTER EGO: *Katie Power*

SPECIAL POWER(s): *Can convert physical objects to energy, then absorb and discharge it as destructive bolts*

APPEARANCE (WHAT DOES THEIR COSTUME LOOK LIKE?): *Yellow and black outfit with geometric design*

HOW DID THE MUTANT GET THEIR POWER? *Was given his powers by an alien named Whitemane*

WHO CREATED THE CHARACTER AND WHEN DID IT FIRST APPEAR? *Louise Simonson/June Brigman - 1984*

WRITE ANY OTHER INTERESTING INFORMATION ABOUT THE CHARACTER. *Answers will vary.*

TRIVIA QUESTIONS

X-Men

- 1. What year did the X-men first appear with their own comic?**
- 2. What is the name of the X-men's plane?**
- 3. Who created the X-men?**
- 4. List the five original X-men.**
- 5. What mutant formed the X-men?**
- 6. Who is the X-men's archenemy?**
- 7. Who was the very first member of the X-men?**
- 8. List five other heroes who were part of the X-men team over the years.**

TRIVIA QUESTIONS-ANSWERS

X-Men

1. What year did the X-men first appear with their own comic?

1963

2. What is the name of the X-men's plane?

Blackbird

3. Who created the X-men?

Stan Lee & Jack Kirby

4. List the five original X-men.

Angel, Beast, Cyclops, Iceman, and Marvel Girl

5. What mutant formed the X-men?

Professor X (Professor Charles Xavier)

6. Who is the X-men's archenemy?

Magento

7. Who was the very first member of the X-men?

Marvel Girl

8. List five other heroes who were part of the X-men team over the years.

Many possible answers

Create a Mutant

On a separate sheet of paper, answer the following questions:

WHO ARE YOU?

What's your mutant's name? Describe & draw your emblem & costume. Describe & draw vehicles your hero uses, if any.

WHAT ARE YOU?

What kind of mutant are you? Do you have superpowers, like Spider-Man, or mental abilities like Professor X? Research the different kinds of mutants. List your powers and weaknesses.

WHO ELSE IS THERE?

Every superhero battles villains, makes friends, falls in love. List the names of your arch enemies, friends & allies, and the loved ones in your character's life.

HOW DID YOU START?

How did your mutant get started? A science experiment gone wrong, or a tragic event that triggers your abilities? Describe your origins, secret identity, your hideout, your hero's motivation, and other parts of your hero's story

TYPES OF SUPERHEROES

NOTE: This list was adapted from several online sources. Many online forums discuss the types of superheroes. Select one, or mix & match hero types for your project.

Armored Hero: A gadgeteer whose powers are derived from a suit of powered armor, e.g. Iron Man, Steel. **Blaster:** A hero whose main power is a distance attack, usually an "energy blast" e.g., Cyclops, Starfire, Static. **Brick/Tank:** A character with a superhuman degree of strength and endurance and usually an oversized, muscular body, such as The Thing or The Hulk. **Elementalist:** A hero who controls some natural element or part of the natural world, e.g., Storm (weather), Polaris (magnetism), the Human Torch (fire). **Gadgeteer:** A hero who invents special equipment that often imitates superpowers, such as Batman. **Mage:** A hero who is trained in the use of magic, or discovers power from an ancient relic. **Martial Artist:** A hero whose physical abilities are mostly human but whose hand-to-hand combat skills are phenomenal. **Mentalist:** A hero who possesses psionic abilities, such as telekinesis, telepathy and extra-sensory perception, for example, Professor X or Jean Grey from X-Men. **Shapeshifter:** A hero who can manipulate his/her own body to suit his/her needs, such as stretching (Mister Fantastic, Plastic Man) or disguise (Changeling, Mystique). **Size changer:** A shapeshifter who can alter his/her size, becoming huge or super-small, like The Atom. **Slasher:** A hero whose main power is some form of hand-to-hand cutting weapon, either devices, such as knives or swords (Zorro), or natural, such as claws (Wolverine). **Speedster:** A hero possessing superhuman speed and reflexes, e.g., The Flash, Quicksilver

Create a GRAPHIC NOVEL

It takes many people to create a graphic novel. Writers and artists bring their talents together to create an illustrated story. You can work with your classmates to create a graphic novel.

Here's what you need:

- 1. WRITERS** - choose an author or two to write the story. Authors will work with the pencillers to decide narration, dialog, panel divisions, pacing, and descriptions of the art.
- 2. PENCILLERS** - choose artists to draw the panels in pencil. Pencillers will work with the authors to draw exactly what they envision. Pencillers will also work with letterers to provide enough space for the text and sound effects.
- 3. INKERS** - choose artists with a steady hand to outline the panels and important art in them. Inkers will work with the pencillers to decide what needs bold outlines.
- 4. COLORISTS** - choose detail-oriented people to color the inked panels. Colorists have to keep colors consistent throughout the panels. Colorists will work with writers and pencillers to get the correct colors in the panels.
- 5. LETTERERS** - choose someone to insert the narration and dialog into the panels. Letterers work with pencillers to make sure there is enough room for the text. Letterers also work with the writers to make sure the text is in the correct place.
- 6. PRODUCTION MANAGER** - one person will need to oversee the entire project. He or she will coordinate the different team members and make sure they are able to talk to each other. The production manager will also create a schedule and make sure each team member follows it to complete the novel.

GLOSSARY WORDS

X-Men Power Pack - Big Trouble at the Big Top! – 39 terms

ability - the power to do something.

alien - a being that comes from or lives in another world.

audience - a group of people watching a performance.

awesome - very great.

bravo - an expression of approval often used after a performance.

curtain - a piece of cloth hung on a theater stage that opens and closes for scenes.

debt - something, such as money, that is owed to another person.

debut - a first appearance.

definitely - surely; certainly.

destined - meant to happen because of fate or luck.

disappoint - to fail to meet what one hopes or expects to reach.

divert - to turn the attention away from something.

dough - money.

employees - people who are paid to work for others.

extraordinary - very unusual; special.

finale - the end of something.

focus - to direct one's attention to something.

freak - a strange or unusual person.

fuzzy - having short, soft hairs.

hurrah - used to express joy or approval.

hypnotize - put in a condition like sleep where a person can easily be directed by someone else.

inspirational - inspiring; uplifting.

juggle - to keep several objects in motion in the air at the same time by tossing and catching them.

looting - stealing.

menace - a threatening or dangerous person.

peanut gallery - the uppermost or farthest away area in a theater that has the cheapest seats.

python - a large, powerful snake that wraps around its prey to squeeze it to death before eating it.

reaction - an action caused by what has happened.

sensational - of high excellence or greatness.

siblings - brothers or sisters.

stagehand - a person who works backstage in theaters or on film or television sets.

teleportation - the act or process of moving something with your mind.

trance - a sleeplike state, in which a person's mind seems not in control of the body.

triumphant - victorious or successful.

troupe - a theater or music group that travels together.

unique - being the only one of its kind.

unsuspecting - not aware of danger.

wallet - a small, flat folding pocketbook for holding money.

will - the power of the mind to decide what one does.

Glossary Words

X-Men Power Pack - Costumes On! – 23 terms

- ability** - the power to do something.
- alien** - a being that comes from or lives in another world.
- apologize** - to say that one is sorry.
- authenticity** - the state of being genuine, or real.
- bobbing** - moving up and down in short, quick movements.
- captivity** - the condition of being held as a prisoner.
- cavalry** - a part of an army that fights on horseback.
- encounter** - a meeting by chance.
- extraordinary** - very unusual; special.
- feud** - a hateful argument between two people, families, or groups that lasts for many years.
- freak** - a strange or unusual person.
- freaked** - upset; scared.
- guarantee** - promise.
- mutant** - a being whose genes have mutated, or suddenly changed.
- nonrefundable** - not able to return money in payment.
- pathetic** - causing feelings of sorrow or sadness.
- precious** - greatly loved; treasured.
- redundant** - using more words than is necessary.
- rug rats** - a slang word for children not yet old enough for school.
- shrink** - to get smaller.
- siblings** - brothers or sisters.
- suspect** - to have doubts about.
- tombstone** - a stone placed to mark a tomb. It usually has words carved into it.

Glossary Words

X-Men Power Pack - Leader of the Pack – 31 terms

ability - the power to do something.
alien - a being that comes from or lives in another world.
bummed - saddened.
damage - to break.
distractions - anything that causes a person to lose focus or direction.
eventually - finally; after a while.
exaggerated - made something seem beyond what is actually true.
extraordinary - very unusual; special.
freak - a strange or unusual person.
freaky - strange; not normal.
identity - who or what a person or a thing is.
idols - people who others look up to and admire.
impeach - to charge a public official for crime or misconduct in office.
insane - having an illness of the mind; acting foolish, or silly.
interns - students gaining guided practical experience in a professional field.
internship - guided practical experience in a professional field.
keycard - a special card that is scanned in order to enter a building or operate a machine.
madman - a man who acts as if he has an illness of the mind.
mangy - shabby.
moping - acting sad and gloomy.
option - a choice.
orientation - the process of becoming familiar with a new environment.
overrated - given too high of credit.
passages - a way through from one place to another.
pasty - pale.
psychos - short for psychopaths, which are people who are mentally ill or unstable.
resign - to leave; to give up one's position.
siblings - brothers or sisters.
sinister - evil or unfavorable.
trespassing - entering a property without the owner's permission.
villain - an evil person.

Glossary Words

X-Men Power Pack - Mind Over Matter – 47 terms

ability - the power to do something.
alien - a being that comes from or lives in another world.
bummed - saddened.
damage - to break.
distractions - anything that causes a person to lose focus or direction.
eventually - finally; after a while.
exaggerated - made something seem beyond what is actually true.
extraordinary - very unusual; special.
freak - a strange or unusual person.
freaky - strange; not normal.
identity - who or what a person or a thing is.
idols - people who others look up to and admire.
impeach - to charge a public official for crime or misconduct in office.
insane - having an illness of the mind; acting foolish, or silly.
interns - students gaining guided practical experience in a professional field.
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keycard - a special card that is scanned in order to enter a building or operate a machine.
madman - a man who acts as if he has an illness of the mind.
mangy - shabby.
moping - acting sad and gloomy.
option - a choice.
orientation - the process of becoming familiar with a new environment.
overrated - given too high of credit.
passages - a way through from one place to another.
pasty - pale.
psychos - short for psychopaths, which are people who are mentally ill or unstable.
resign - to leave; to give up one's position.
siblings - brothers or sisters.
sinister - evil or unfavorable.
trespassing - entering a property without the owner's permission.
villain - an evil person.

VOCABULARY MATCHING

X-Men Power Pack - Big Trouble at the Big Top!

Directions: Match the words to their definitions.

focus _____

1) the end of something

teleportation _____

2) the act or process of moving something with your mind

finale _____

3) an action caused by what has happened

teleportation _____

4) to direct one's attention to something

reaction _____

5) very great

awesome _____

6) the act or process of moving something with your mind

Write a sentence that contains one of the words from above.

VOCABULARY MATCHING

X-Men Power Pack - Costumes On!

Directions: Match the words to their definitions.

bobbing _____

1) to have doubts about

pathetic _____

2) moving up and down in short, quick movements

encounter _____

3) to get smaller

suspect _____

4) causing feelings of sorrow or sadness

shrink _____

5) very unusual; special

extraordinary _____

5) a meeting by chance

Write a sentence that contains one of the words from above.

VOCABULARY MATCHING

X-Men Power Pack - Leader of the Pack

Directions: Match the words to their definitions.

idols _____

1) a way through from one place to another

passages _____

2) brothers or sisters

sinister _____

3) acting sad and gloomy

siblings _____

4) having an illness of the mind; acting foolish, or silly

moping _____

5) people who others look up to and admire

insane _____

6) evil or unfavorable

Write a sentence that contains one of the words from above.

VOCABULARY MATCHING

X-Men Power Pack - Mind Over Matter

Directions: Match the words to their definitions.

triggered _____

1) strong or harmful force

fest _____

2) to turn to for aid

resort _____

3) began or set in motion

violence _____

4) improved the value, quality, or attractiveness of something

spontaneous _____

5) a gathering or event having a certain purpose

enhanced _____

6) happening freely and without a plan

Write a sentence that contains one of the words from above.

VOCABULARY MATCHING-ANSWERS

X-Men Power Pack

Big Trouble at the Big Top!

4

6

1

2

3

5

Costumes On!

2

4

6

1

3

5

Leader of the Pack

5

1

6

2

3

4

Mind Over Matter

3

5

2

1

6

4

VOCABULARY WORDS

X-Men Power Pack - Big Trouble at the Big Top!

Directions: Write the definitions to the vocabulary words below.

curtain

sensational

hypnotize

bravo

wallet

VOCABULARY WORDS

X-Men Power Pack - Costumes On!

Directions: Write the definitions to the vocabulary words below.

fued

shrink

authenticity

calvary

tombstone

VOCABULARY WORDS

X-Men Power Pack - Leader of the Pack

Directions: Write the definitions to the vocabulary words below.

trespassing

options

interns

exaggerated

distractions

VOCABULARY WORDS

X-Men Power Pack - Mind Over Matter

Directions: Write the definitions to the vocabulary words below.

demonstrate

origin

genetic

activate

stole

VOCABULARY WORDS-ANSWERS

X-Men Power Pack

X-Men Power Pack - Big Trouble at the Big Top!

curtain - a piece of cloth hung on a theater stage that opens and closes for scenes.

sensational - of high excellence or greatness.

hypnotize - put in a condition like sleep where a person can easily be directed by someone else.

bravo - an expression of approval often used after a performance.

wallet - a small, flat folding pocketbook for holding money.

X-Men Power Pack - Costumes On!

feud - a hateful argument between two people, families, or groups that lasts for many years.

shrink - to get smaller.

authenticity - the state of being genuine, or real.

cavalry - a part of an army that fights on horseback.

tombstone - a stone placed to mark a tomb. It usually has words carved into it.

X-Men Power Pack - Leader of the Pack

trespassing - entering a property without the owner's permission.

option - a choice.

interns - students gaining guided practical experience in a professional field.

exaggerated - made something seem beyond what is actually true.

distractions - anything that causes a person to lose focus or direction.

X-Men Power Pack - Mind Over Matter

demonstrate - to show or explain, especially by using examples.

origin - the beginning of something.

genetic - of or relating to a branch of biology that deals with inherited features.

activate - to make active; to set in motion.

stole - took without permission.